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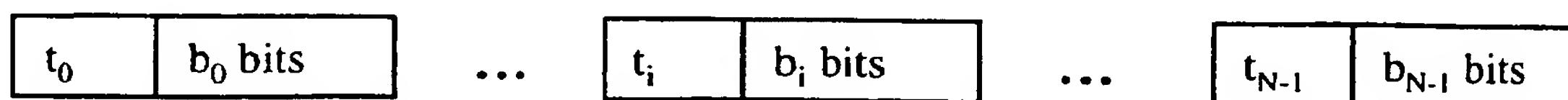
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(54) Title: TRANSMITTING RECORDED MATERIAL



(57) Abstract: Recorded material such as video is transmitted in compressed form to a receiver, which has a buffer for smoothing differences between the data rate received and that consumed by a decoder that follows. The whole of the recording is analysed to determine a point at which to commence playing such that no buffer underflow can occur; the decoder commences playing only when this point has been reached.